

KCTCS CASE STUDY

Situation: On a Friday afternoon at 4:30 p.m. a KCTCS college in southeastern Kentucky called to report that a student had showed up in the student affairs office to announce that they had been diagnosed for the second time with tuberculosis. The student had been instructed by his doctor to report immediately to the hospital for further tests and to be quarantined. However, despite knowingly exposing everyone to TB, he showed up at the college to make arrangements to complete his courses for the semester.

College Response:

- When the student showed up to announce his infection, very few college personnel were on-campus to address the situation including the president, PR Director and crisis management team leader.
- The Associate Dean of Students stepped in to take charge of the situation and immediately called the KCTCS System Office.
- First step was to close the campus and conduct a thorough cleaning of the building.
- Second step was to contact the local health department to determine appropriate and legal next steps. However they were closed and an emergency contact could not be located.
- KCTCS SO contacted the state health department to determine regulations and procedures (we had emergency numbers). Additionally we made arrangements to have health department personnel on site Monday morning to test faculty, staff and students for TB.
- Followed up to make sure the student showed up at the hospital for further tests (he did not).
- Suspended student until he was given a clean bill of health.